

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An electronic book (e-book) system is disclosed for advancing distribution of electronic reading materials using an electronic book (e-book) server at different locations over different data networks. Such an electronic book system may comprise a private network; a central server connected to the private network, which stores a collection of electronic documents; an e-book server which stores an electronic document selected from the central server converted in an e-book format for later downloading to a remote e-book terminal, via a public network; and a host computer connected to the private network, which selects the electronic document from the central server, and uses a print function of an operating system to transfer the selected electronic document from the central server for storage in an e-book format at the e-book server for later downloading to a remote e-book terminal, via the public network.